

Message Text

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ACTION EUR-12

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 EURE-00 USIE-00 AGR-05 AID-05
CEA-01 CIAE-00 COME-00 EB-08 EA-07 FRB-03 INR-07
IO-13 NEA-10 NSAE-00 OPIC-03 SP-02 TRSE-00 LAB-04
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TAGS: OECD, CIEC, EAID

SUBJECT: EEC PROPOSAL RE INFRASTRUCTURE

1. THE EC CIRCULATED TO THE G-8 SUB-CONTRACT GROUP ON
INFRASTRUCTURE THE FOLLOWING PROPOSED TEXT AS A
REPLACEMENT FOR PARAGRAPH EIGHT DEALING WITH THE DECADE
FOR AFRICA:

BEGIN TEXT: THE CIEC PARTICIPANTS RECOGNIZE THAT
THE AFRICAN CONTINENT IS PARTICULARLY DISADVANTAGED IN
RESPECT OF INFRASTRUCTURES, INTER ALIA IN THE FIELD OF
TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS.

THEY AGREE TO RECOMMEND THAT PARTICULAR ATTENTION
BE DEVOTED BY THE INTERNATIONAL COMMUNITY DURING THE
NEXT DECADE TO SEEKING SOLUTIONS TO THE PROBLEMS ARISING
IN THIS CONNECTION. THE AFRICAN TRANSPORT AND
COMMUNICATIONS DECADE PROPOSED BY THE GROUP OF 19
WOULD BE AIMED AT CONCERTING THE VARIOUS
INITIATIVES, ESPECIALLY IN REGARD TO THE ECONOMIC
AND TECHNICAL PLANNING OF INFRASTRUCTURES AND THEIR
FINANCING, AND AT SITUATING THEM AS FAR AS POSSIBLE
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IN A REGIONAL OR SUB-REGIONAL FRAMEWORK.

APPROPRIATE MEASURES SHOULD BE TAKEN WITHIN
EXISTING INTERNATIONAL BODIES (E.G. THE ECONOMIC
COMMISSION FOR AFRICA IN CONJUNCTION WITH THE
WORLD BANK) IN ORDER TO ORGANIZE SUCH CONCERTED
ACTION EFFECTIVELY.

THE CIEC PARTICIPANTS CALL ON THE COMPETENT INTERNATIONAL ORGANIZATIONS, AND ON THOSE INDUSTRIALIZED COUNTRIES AND DEVELOPING COUNTRIES ABLE TO CONTRIBUTE, TO COMBINE THEIR EFFORTS IN THIS FIELD. END TEXT

2. DESPITE IMPLICATIONS IN THE ABOVE EC TEXT, THE EC REPRESENTATIVE INDICATED TODAY TO G-8 THAT BY AND LARGE EC MEMBERS DO NOT INTEND TO INCREASE ASSISTANCE FOR AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE GENERALLY, OR FOR TRANSPORT AND COMMUNICATIONS IN PARTICULAR. WE NOTED WE WOULD HAVE DIFFICULTY SUPPORTING LANGUAGE THAT SEEMS TO PROMISE MORE THAN CAN BE DELIVERED.

3. WE WILL CONTINUE TO PUSH FOR SOMETHING ALONG THE LINES OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH OF THE RECOMMENDED U.S. POSITION, INCLUDING RECOMMENDATION FOR CONFERENCE ON AFRICAN INFRASTRUCTURE. AS AN INITIAL FALLBACK, DEPENDING ON POSITION OF OTHERS, WE MAY SUGGEST THAT WE COULD AGREE TO THE ABOVE OR SIMILAR EEC LANGUAGE IF EC WERE TO ELIMINATE THE SECOND SENTENCE OF THE SECOND PARAGRAPH, WHICH WE FEEL IS TRANSPARENTLY MISLEADING .

4. IN ANY EVENT, IN OUR VIEW, G-19 WOULD NOT ACCEPT THE EEC COMPROMISE PROPOSAL UNLESS IT WERE CHANGED TO SAY MORE CLEARLY WHAT IT IMPLIES, NAMELY ACCEPTANCE OF MORE OF THE SUBSTANCE OF THE DECADE CONCEPT.

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Message Attributes

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Sent Date: 28-Apr-1977 12:00:00 am
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